



## CITY OF GLOUCESTER COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE PROJECT APPLICATION COVER SHEET

### I: Project Information

Project Title:  
SEINE FIELD HANDICAP ACCESS TRAIL PROJECT

Project Summary:

Seine Field along Farrington Avenue in Gloucester is a 25-acre Essex County Greenbelt Association property open to the public and accessible with public transportation. Greenbelt proposes to rebuild an existing 1600-foot trail through the open field to make it handicap accessible and ADA compliant. The project has the support of the Gloucester Mayor's office, the Open Space Committee, Cape Ann Transportation Authority and the Cape Ann Trail Stewards.

Estimated start date: April 2018 Estimated completion date: May 2018

CPA Program Area:

- ☐ Open Space                      ☐ Historic Preservation  
☐ Community Housing           ☒ Recreation

### II: Applicant/Developer Information

Contact Person with primary responsibility for project: David Rimmer

Organization (if applicable): Essex County Greenbelt Association

Mailing Address: 82 Eastern Ave, Essex, MA 01929

Daytime phone #: 978-768-7241 X14

Fax #:

E-mail address: dwr@ecga.org

Federal ID#

04-2664297

### III: Budget Summary

Total budget for project: \$21,375.00

CPA funding request: \$5,000.00

CPA request as percentage of total budget: 23%

Applicant's Signature:

David W. Rimmer - Greenbelt

Printed name and Position:

David W. Rimmer

Co-applicant (DPW):

\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative  
Community Preservation Committee Project Application  
City of Gloucester

Submitted by:  
Essex County Greenbelt Association  
April 2017

Narrative

A. Introduction

The Essex County Greenbelt Association (Greenbelt), a 501c3 land trust founded in 1961, is located with a headquarters in Essex, Massachusetts. Greenbelt has a mission of protecting land with exceptional scenic, ecological and agricultural value for public use and enjoyment. To date Greenbelt has been involved with the protection of nearly 17,000 acres of land in the communities of Essex County, including fee lands, conservation restrictions and assisted projects. Greenbelt manages more than 30 public access properties, providing parking and trails for a wide variety of non-motorized users such as hikers, skiers, bikers, equestrians, artists and general nature enthusiasts.

B. Property Description

One of Greenbelt's most popular properties is the Seine Field in Gloucester (Exhibit A). This 25-acre parcel of land is located close to the Atlantic shoreline and includes a red maple swamp and open fields containing a sand plain grassland habitat that is rare in this region of Massachusetts (Exhibit B). Seine Field is known to attract unusual bird sightings in spring and fall given its proximity to the Atlantic Ocean and uniqueness of habitat. Historically this property was used by local fishermen to stretch out and repair their seine nets, an activity that Greenbelt still allows today.

Seine Field is basically surrounded by residential neighborhood and is only about one half mile from downtown Gloucester. In many ways, Seine Field is a "pocket park" – a small but important area of green space accessed by many from the surrounding neighborhoods as well from further distances away. Seine Field is primarily accessed by the public from Farrington Avenue. Most users are passive hikers and dog walkers using the relatively flat trail that loops through an open field (Exhibit C). This trail is about 1600 feet in length.

There is parking for 2-3 vehicles in a designated lot, but additional parking is available along the shoulder of the road. However, Farrington Avenue and the nearby connected Atlantic Avenue are both extremely popular scenic coastal roads used by walkers, which results in a significant number of people walking to Seine Field.

Seine Field is also a designated “trail destination” stop on the bus route of the Cape Ann Transportation Authority (CATA), offering public transportation to the trails at Seine Field.

### C. Accessible Trail Project

Trails at Seine Field are currently limited to a single-track loop trail through the open field (Exhibit D). Trails do not currently access the red maple swamp nor do they connect to a larger trail system. As mentioned above, the trail connections are more with neighborhoods and smaller residential streets.

The total project budget is \$26,375.00. Greenbelt is applying for a Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation – Recreational Trails Grant for \$21,375.00 and requesting a \$5,000.00 matching grant from the Gloucester Community Preservation Committee (see attached budget for details).

Greenbelt is committed to constructing accessible trails, as we believe members of the public with disabilities are underserved when it comes to accessible trails. This accessible trail also dovetails perfectly with the local public transportation provided by CATA, providing trail access to a wider variety of trail users in Gloucester and surrounding communities, including senior citizens.

The trail construction will be overseen by Greenbelt but completed by a contractor as follows:

1. Following the existing trail, excavate a 6-foot wide area, removing organic material to a depth of 12 inches +/-
2. Place 3/4 inch plus gravel approximately 6 inches deep onto trail and compact,
3. Place landscape fabric over compacted gravel,
4. Place 3/8 inch minus gravel approximately 4 inches deep over landscape fabric.  
Compact so the trail surface and adjacent ground are on an equal grade, resulting in an in-ground 5-foot wide accessible trail,
5. Place benches and interpretive signage along trail.

Greenbelt has done a preliminary review of environmental, social and cultural resources. Formal filings may be necessary but it appears that there are no wetlands or rare species habitat associated with the trails at Seine Field. There is no indication of any relevant social or cultural issues at this time, but Greenbelt will be investigating this further with the City of Gloucester and the Massachusetts Historical Commission regarding archeological resources.

### D. Project Time-Line

Greenbelt intends to begin work on this project in the Spring of 2018. We have estimate 5 contractor days but suspect that the entire project may take 2-3 weeks to complete considering up front prep time, post project clean-up and possible interruptions due to inclement weather.

## E. Project Support

Currently Greenbelt has received project support letters from the Gloucester Mayor's Office, the Gloucester Open Space Committee, The Cape Ann Transportation Authority and the Cape Ann Trail Stewards.

## F. Summary

Greenbelt is committed to providing public access at our properties and we are endeavoring to create more accessible trails and opportunities for disabled persons to enjoy the benefits of our conserved properties. We believe this accessible trail project in Gloucester is a perfect fit for the Gloucester Community Preservation Committee because it is:

1. an accessible trails project,
2. at an existing established Greenbelt property,
3. affordable and simple to construct,
4. close in proximity to a large population center,
5. easily accessible by private and public transportation,
6. includes and is supported by a range of partners such as the City of Gloucester Mayors Office and Open Space Committee, the Cape Ann Transportation Authority and the Cape Ann Trails Association.

Greenbelt is well established in Gloucester and in Essex County as a respected land conservation organization and as a steward of conservation land and trails. For more than 55 years, Greenbelt has been protecting land for public use and enjoyment, whether via trails, scenic landscapes or local farms that provide local foods. We are confident that this project is worthy of funding by the Gloucester Community Preservation Committee and we would embrace the opportunity to partner with this program to create this accessible trail at Seine Field in Gloucester.

# APPROXIMATE BUDGET FOR 1600' ACCESSIBLE TRAIL AT SEINE FIELD, GLOUCESTER, MA

				DCR Recreational Trails Grant Request	Gloucester CPC Grant Request
-					
Materials Description	Unit	Unit Price	Quantity		
3/8" Minus Gravel Mix	tons	20	200	\$ 4,000	
3/4 Plus Gravel	tons	20	300	\$ 6,000	
Grass Seed, Meadow mix	bag	250	1	\$ 250	
5' x 360' Roll, Landscape Cloth	roll	250	5	\$ 1,250	
Interpretive Panels	each	250	4		\$ 1,000
Benches	bench	750	2		\$ 1,500
			TOTAL	\$ 11,500	
<u>Contractor Overhead</u>					
Equipment and labor	days	1800/day	5	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,000
			TOTAL	\$ 8,000	
<u>Other Overhead</u>					
Trail Consultant to design and layout trail	hrs	75	20		\$ 1,500
Project Manager	hrs	75	25	\$ 1,875	
			TOTAL	\$ 1,875	
<b>TOTAL GRANTS =</b>				<b>\$ 21,375</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>



# Exhibit A

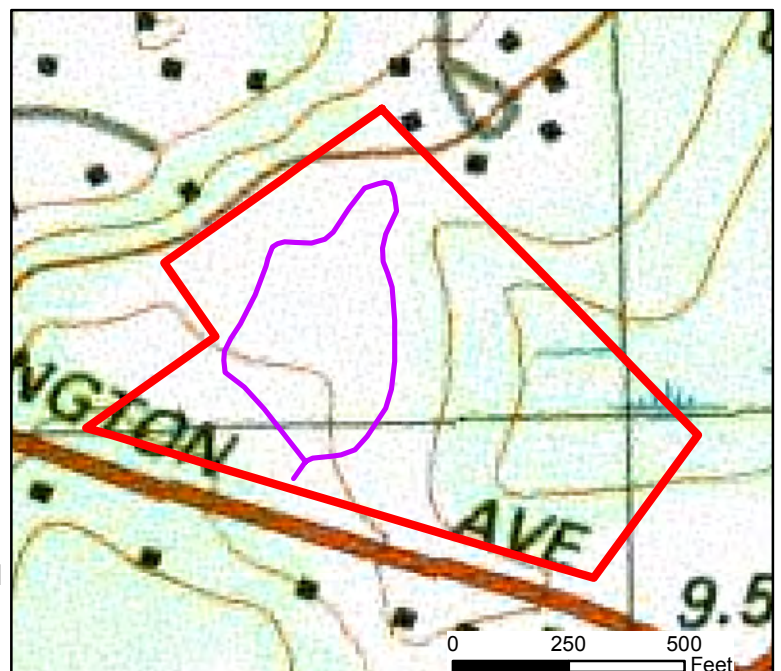
## Accessible Trail at Seine Field Gloucester, Massachusetts USGS Map



- Accessible Trail
- Seine Field
- Greenbelt Properties
- Greenbelt CRs
- Mass GIS Permanently Protected



Source data obtained from assessors data, MassGIS and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Boundary lines and all other property attributes are approximate.





## Exhibit B

Entrance to Seine Field, with Greenbelt sign and kiosk.



Sand plain grassland habitat





## Exhibit C

Views of existing footpath, to be converted to accessible trail.







## Exhibit D

### Accessible Trail at Seine Field Gloucester, Massachusetts



0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Feet

- Accessible Trail
- Seine Field Boundary



Source data obtained from assessors data, MassGIS and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Boundary lines and all other property attributes are approximate.



CAPE ANN TRANSPORTATION OPERATING COMPANY

3R Pond Road, Gloucester, MA 01930 (978) 283-7916 FAX (978) 283-9456

David Rimmer  
Director of Stewardship  
Essex County Greenbelt Association  
82 Eastern Ave  
Essex, MA 01929

January 25, 2017

Dear Mr. Rimmer,

I am writing on behalf of the Cape Ann Transportation Authority in support of the Essex County Greenbelt Association's (Greenbelt) Recreational Trails Program grant proposal being submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. This proposal requests funding to create a new accessible trail at Seine Field, a 25 acres property owned and managed by Greenbelt in Gloucester

The Cape Ann Transportation Authority is an organization dedicated to providing public transportation in a safe and courteous manner in the communities of Gloucester and Rockport mitigating traffic, conserving energy and improving air quality. We have been partners with Greenbelt recently on an innovative project Transit to Trails, that creates stops on the transportation route at various open space areas where passengers can disembark to hike trails and enjoy the out of doors car free. Seine Field in Gloucester is one of these stops.

We believe an accessible trail at Seine Field will offer a unique opportunity for trail access for users of all abilities both near an urban center like Gloucester but also from neighboring communities.

The Cape Ann Transportation Authority joins many other groups in our strong support for this trail project at Seine Field in Gloucester. We wish you good luck with the grant proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Ryan", followed by a horizontal line.

Robert B. Ryan  
General Manager





**CAPE ANN TRAIL STEWARDS**

PO Box 690

Essex, MA 01929

[www.capeanntrailstewards.org](http://www.capeanntrailstewards.org)

David Rimmer  
Director of Stewardship  
Essex County Greenbelt Association  
82 Eastern Ave  
Essex, MA 01929

January 27, 2017

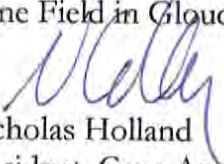
Dear Mr. Rimmer:

I am writing on behalf of the Cape Ann Trail Stewards in support of the Essex County Greenbelt Association's Recreational Trails Program grant proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation to create a new accessible trail at their Seine Field property in Gloucester.

Cape Ann Trail Stewards is a non-profit organization working to protect, maintain and expand Cape Ann's trail networks. Our board is comprised of representatives of each town as well as board members from Essex County Greenbelt, Manchester Essex Conservation Trust, and user groups such as the Essex County Trails Association, Cape Ann Climbing Coalition and New England Mountain Bike Association.

We believe an accessible trail at Seine Field will offer a unique opportunity for trail access for users of all abilities near an urban center like Gloucester. Thanks to a joint project between Cape Ann Trail Stewards and the Cape Ann Transit Authority, the Seine Field is now accessible by public transit from various locations on Cape Ann.

The Cape Ann Trail Stewards joins many others in our strong support for this trail project at Seine Field in Gloucester. Good luck with the grant proposal.

  
Nicholas Holland  
President, Cape Ann Trail Stewards

City Hall  
Nine Dale Avenue  
Gloucester, MA 01930



CITY OF GLOUCESTER  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TEL 978-281-9700  
FAX 978-281-9738  
SRomeoTheken@gloucester-ma.gov

January 24, 2017

Dave Rimmer  
Director of Land Stewardship  
Greenbelt | Essex County's Land Trust  
82 Eastern Avenue  
Essex, MA 01929

Re: Seine Field Accessible Trail  
Recreational Trails Grant Application

Dear Mr. Rimmer:

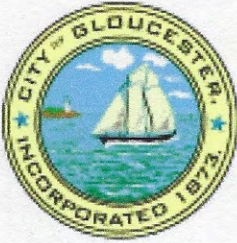
Thanks again for working with the City, Cape Ann Transit, the Gloucester Council on Aging and Cape Ann Trail Stewards on the successful Trails to Transit Day last fall. I am excited to hear that as a result of that effort, Greenbelt now plans to improve the trail at Seine Field so that it is a wider, accessible trail that more Gloucester residents can readily enjoy. This trail will also support the Mass in Motion – Cape Ann Partnership's effort to create and designate more "Healthy Heart Trails" that will encourage more residents to walk and hike Cape Ann's wonderful open spaces as part of a healthy, active lifestyle.

The City of Gloucester whole-heartedly endorses Essex County Greenbelt's application to the Recreational Trails Grant program for funds to construct an accessible trail at Seine Field in East Gloucester. Please let me know if the City can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Sefania Romeo Theken  
Mayor





## CITY OF GLOUCESTER

Open Space and Recreation Committee

3 Pond Road

Gloucester MA 01930

Tel [978-281-9700](tel:978-281-9700)

January 24, 2017

Dave Rimmer  
Director of Land Stewardship  
Greenbelt | Essex County's Land Trust  
82 Eastern Avenue  
Essex, MA 01929

Re: Seine Field Accessible Trail  
Recreational Trails Grant Application

Dear Mr. Rimmer:

On behalf of the Gloucester Open Space and Recreation Committee, I am writing to endorse the Essex County Greenbelt's application to the Recreational Trails Grant program for funds to construct an accessible trail at Seine Field in East Gloucester. As you know, maintaining and improving access to the City's open space has been a priority for our committee. We appreciate the efforts of the Greenbelt's ~~efforts~~ to improve the trail at Seine Field so that a wider range of users can enjoy this area.

We look forward to continue our ongoing work with the Greenbelt to improve our recreational resources and open spaces.

Sincerely yours,

Chairman

Gloucester Open Space and Recreation Committee